

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

July 2011

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STAFF:

ANNA T. BROOME, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

LD 1460 An Act Concerning the Recording of Plans for Subdivisions

PUBLIC 245

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMAS	OTP-AM	S-175

This bill requires a municipality to allow at least 90 days to record a subdivision plan, plat or document after municipal approval.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-175)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 245 requires a municipality to allow at least 90 days to record a subdivision plan, plat or document after municipal approval.

LD 1476 An Act To Streamline the County Budget Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COTTA SULLIVAN	ONTP	

This bill amends the county budget procedures for York County and Waldo County in the following ways.

1. For York County, this bill renames the York County Budget Committee the York County Budget Advisory Committee, requires 5 of the 10 voting members to be from the public and requires its chair be an appointed public member. This bill also requires a unanimous vote by the York County commissioners to amend the budget sent to them by the York County Budget Advisory Committee, changes the provisions concerning interim budgets and adds provisions concerning budget amendments.

2. For Waldo County, this bill renames the Waldo County Budget Committee the Waldo County Budget Advisory Committee, requires 6 of the 9 voting members to be from the public and requires its chair be an appointed public member. This bill also requires a unanimous vote by the Waldo County commissioners to amend the budget sent to them by the Waldo County Budget Advisory Committee, changes provisions concerning interim budgets and amends the provisions concerning budget amendments.

LD 1481 An Act To Require the State To Transfer Employee Pension Premium Payments to the Employee's Pension Plan within 2 Business Days

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON	ONTP	

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

This bill provides the requirement that payroll deductions for individual retirement accounts, simplified employee pension plans and tax-deferred arrangements for state employees must be transferred into the accounts within two business days of the deduction.

LD 1492 An Act To Ensure Accountability in State Contracts

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-262 S-278 ALFOND

This bill requires any request for proposal or solicitation of a bid by the State for a contract for the provision of property, products or services by the state budget to include certain defining information and requires the information to be posted on the publicly accessible portion of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services website.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-262)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, clarifies that the posting of information on the website of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services relates to contracts for purchases and not to contracts in a budget. It also moves the provision from the chapter on general provisions of finance to the chapter on purchases in the Maine Revised Statutes. It removes the language relating to posting information on the estimated cost of providing the products or services and the estimated number of employees required to fulfill the contract.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-278)

This amendment provides that the collection and posting of information on the website of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services applies only to contracts that exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill died on the appropriations table on adjournment.

LD 1499 An Act Concerning Fees for Users of County Registries of Deeds

**PUBLIC 378
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COTTA KATZ	OTP-AM	H-503 S-280 THOMAS

This bill allows county commissioners to consider the revenue needs of the county in establishing reasonable fees for copies and abstracts provided by the registry of deeds offices.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-503)

The bill requires county commissioners to consider the revenue needs of the county in setting reasonable fees for making abstracts and copies from records. This amendment replaces that provision with a set charge of \$1 for paper copies and 50¢ for digital copies. These per page fees apply to all copies, including requests for bulk transfers of